

The SOUTHEAST NEWS

OF, BY AND FOR CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCHES

Volume 2 - Number 9

JUNE, 1954

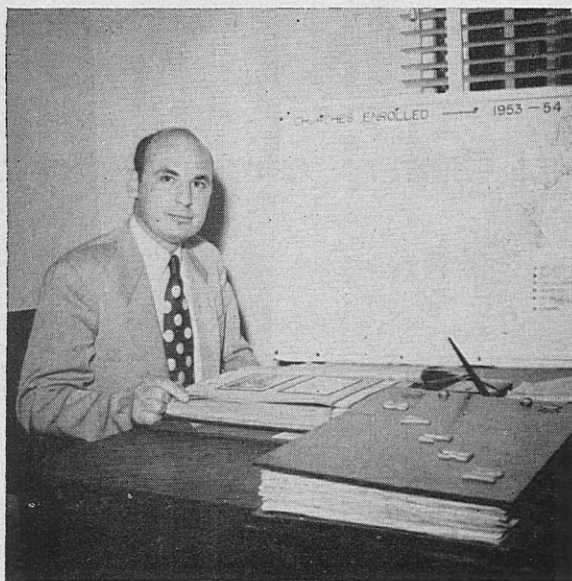


MINISTERS ATTENDING THE CONVOCATION AND SCHOOL AT SOUTHERN UNION COLLEGE,
WADLEY, ALA.



Developing Churches Across The South

By Ross Freeman



ROSS FREEMAN

Churches representing thirty-one denominations, thirteen states, and two races have submitted Reports of Progress in the second annual Town and Country Church Development Program sponsored by Emory University, The Sears-Roebuck Foundation, and thirteen state committees.

State committees, made up of distinguished citizens, study all the reports and select the ten churches that have made the most progress. The first place winner in each state is named "The Rural Church of the Year." Four are designated for second place awards, and five are given third place awards.

Awards of Recognition totalling \$12,500 will be given the congregations who, in the opinion of the judges, have done "The best job with what they have."

Announcement of the winners will be made June 15 and the thirteen "Rural Church of the Year" reports will be mailed to the central office in Atlanta where they will be studied by a South-wide Evaluation Committee. "The Rural Church of the South" will be selected from them.

This is not a contest between churches. It is a program of stimulation, guidance and recognition. Churches do not compete with one another they compete with themselves. A letter from Mrs. Eric Biendenharn, Bovina, Miss., describes the beneficial results of participation:

"Our committee worked several days, and we all feel that even if St. Alban's does not win any recognition, we have gained immeasurably from our participation. Actually we did not realize how many activities had been carried on, how much different groups had accomplished without the knowledge of the whole congregation."

An effort is being made by the forty member Central Committee and the 296 member State Committees to do five things through this inter-

denominational and inter-racial program for churches in communities of 5,000 population and less.

1. Spread successful and workable small church plans across the South. These are not dreamed up by the Executive Committee, but they are collected from the churches themselves and shared with others in the thirteen states through the monthly Newsletter.

2. Furnish stimulation and guidance to local churches in examining their programs and planning their progress. This is the core of the program. A Development Packet containing specific help for the local church and other materials are sent to each participating church.

3. Encourage local churches to participate in community improvement activities. Members of the committee feel that a self-centered church is just as un-Christian as a self-centered person. "Churches whose primary concern is paying their budget, improving their property, or even enlarging their membership are not really concerned about reaching out into the community and building the Kingdom."

4. Promote the world mission of the church. An effort is made to strengthen the denominational missionary programs. In addition, churches are urged to establish contact with local community groups in various sections of the world. Gifts, of small monetary value, can be exchanged across the waters, and ties created that will be hard to sever, even by war's cruel hand.

5. Recognize outstanding achievement in these areas. Last year the thirty-two member Methodist church in Egypt, Miss., was named "Rural Church of the South." They began the year with fourteen members, and for six years they had been worshipping in the Baptist building. With the addition of two new members the congregation decided that it was strong enough to attempt a building program. Consequently they spent \$12,000 erecting a lovely and adequate church building. Then, in a revival, they doubled the membership.

The 130 churches showing outstanding progress in 1953 were publicized throughout the nation.

Because of the interest manifested in the South, the Sears-Roebuck Foundation has launched a similar program for the Middle Atlantic states in cooperation with the Town and Country School at Westminster Theological Seminary, and the State Councils of Churches.

A Negro Baptist church in Southwest Tennessee included a mimeographed bulletin which its pastor had prepared. Across the front of it he had written "The purpose of the Pulpit is to pull people out of the pit."

Churches interested in participating for the 1954-55 program should write the Director, G. Ross Freeman, Box 309, Emory University, Ga.

* * *

Rev. Scott Morris Honored

Among the group of distinguished professional educators initiated into the University of Georgia

(Please turn to page 4)

Gideon Club of Church Builders

By W. C. Carpenter, Secretary

We are glad to report that we now have 412 members of the GIDEON CLUB OF CHURCH BUILDERS, with \$1,700 paid dues. Is it too much to hope that we may reach our first goal of 1000 paid members so the club can swing into action by the last of August? If each member and minister in the Convention will accept the challenge given at our Convention Meeting in Lanett, we can reach it easily. This is the challenge: let every member of the club resolve to enlist at least one new member right now--more if you can, but at least one. Let every minister accept a goal of enlisting at least ten new members right now--more if you can, but at least ten. Send their names, addresses (and money if they pay the first pledge) to the Secretary, Rev. W. C. Carpenter, Douglas, Ga., and I will enroll them and return receipt and membership card.

We were happy at the enthusiastic and unanimous approval of the club by our Convention. We are also happy to know that our National Loan Fund Campaign has been successfully concluded. We have been waiting for this before starting an all-out drive for the club. Now we have the challenge of a green light. I have faith to believe that **everyone** (it depends on each individual) will throw the full weight of his influence and effort behind this--our very own church building plan. Please bear in mind that our ultimate goal is 3,000 members, when we will have \$15,000 on call to help new churches get started--enough to help three all at one time with the amount of \$5,000 each! Our immediate goal is 1000 paid members. Let us reach that quickly.

We are proud of the careful planning of the East Alabama Association for a thorough campaign for its area. A good suggestion coming from them is to designate a month as Church Builders Club month with one service at each church given by a community canvass for membership. This in turn followed by an association rally climaxing the entire effort. Then, if the 25% membership goal is not reached, plans to carry through can be made at this meeting. Such a plan has all the earmarks of success. The South Georgia Association voted to make July their Church Builders' Month at the May 29-30 meeting. We hope to be hearing from other areas soon.

Many of our national denominational leaders have joined the Club. **Dr. Stanley U. North** stated: "... your plan is supplementary to the national Church Building Loan Fund, which is basic ... I like your spirit."

Dr. Robert Cashman writes: 'One could not resist such a modest and righteous appeal as you have made, and you may enroll the National Moderator as a member of your fine organization.'

Dr. Ross Sanderson: 'I am glad to have a token share in so good a cause.' Other members include **Dr. W. C. Timmons**, **Miss Ione Catton**, **Mrs. Ellis Hemingway**, **Miss Grace Towner**, more than twenty-five of our active pastors, and almost 100% membership of our Convention officers and Board of Directors.

Nashville Builds New Church



Because of the generosity of one of our Georgia ministers, a dedicated congregation, and the sacrificial efforts of "The Little Minister" (Talmage Hartman), another great dream is about to be realized.

On April 1, with funds provided by the Church Building Department of the Board of Home Missions, the Convention took title to the sixty-four acre tract in the Brookmeade section of Nashville. By the end of May the bulldozer was leveling the land in preparation for the first unit. Work is now well under way, and before long the cooperative efforts of the Nashville folks will have established a new church in a growing community of one of our nation's leading metropolitan cities.

The proposed first unit, which will later fit into the completed church plant as the Youth Center, is expected to cost in the neighborhood of \$5,000 and was designed by Don Stoll, who is one of the new members of our Brookmeade Church.

Our prayers and best wishes are with the pastor, members, and friends of this, our newest new church.



Rev. Hartman supervising bulldozing work.

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Number 9

Stewardship Truths

(From the Notebook of Warren H. Denison)

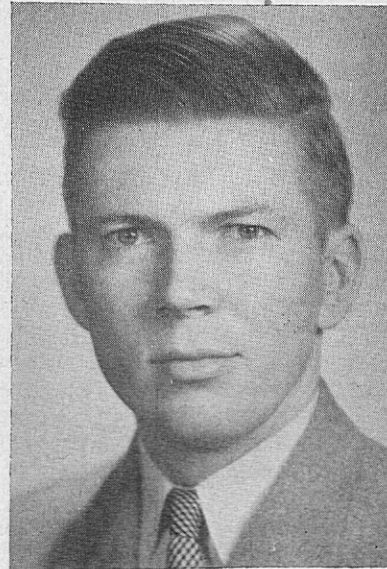
1. Stewardship must begin with me before it can get into my home and my church.
2. Christian Stewardship has to do with all my relations to things and possessions; acquiring, using, spending, saving, making my will, giving.
3. Investment in religion never impoverishes anyone.
4. There will be a new era in any person's life when he accepts the spiritual nature of money.
5. It is a good thing to have money, and the things money can buy, and it is vital that we check up and make sure we have not lost the things that money cannot buy.
6. The tithe is the Lord's. It is holy unto the Lord, and it must be used for His work.
7. Christian Stewardship offers the only sound, permanent foundation for the financial affairs of the church and the kingdom.
8. Stewardship is not just another name for offerings, subscriptions, giving, but is an expression of the Life in Christ.
9. We do not own what we possess; God entrusts us with some of it, not that we may keep it, count it, love it, but that we may use it as He would have us, and the way we use it determines the fitness for larger trusts.
10. Christian Stewardship is not a needless sacrifice to be made, a burden to be borne, a subtraction from life and purse, but is something exalted, a privilege to be devoutly welcome . . . a beautiful partnership . . . a sacred trust, rich in spiritual values.

DEVELOPING ACROSS THE SOUTH

(From page 2)

Beta Kappa Chapter of Kappa Delta Pi was the Rev. Scott Morris, Jr. of Athens and Moultrie, Ga., at present the pastor of the North Georgia Parish. Kappa Delta Pi is the largest honor society in Education in the U.S. Members are selected upon the basis of high scholastic ratings, personal characteristics, and the achievement of high pro-

Introducing Our New Treasurer



JOHN W. STOKES

John W. Stokes has practiced law in Atlanta for several years and was recently appointed assistant U. S. District Attorney in Atlanta. He is a native of Adairsville, Ga., growing up and attending elementary and high schools in White Plains, N. Y. and Stuart, Fla. An alumnus of the University of Florida and Emory University, undergraduate and law studies, he served four years as Naval Aviator in World War II, and is a Lieutenant in the U.S.N.R.

Mr. and Mrs. Stokes live at 1932 Sumter St., N.W., Atlanta, with their two sons, John Paul and Richard Forrest. Mrs. Stokes was formerly June Lee Deppen of White Plains, N. Y. They are members of our Center Church in Atlanta.

Mr. Stokes' grandfather was the late Dr. John Stapleton, pastor of Frankford Congregational Church, Philadelphia, and Chatterton Hill Congregational Church, White Plains, N. Y.

The Materialist's 23rd Psalm

Science is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down on foam rubber mattresses; he leadeth me beside the four-lane highways.

He rejuvenateth my thyroid glands; he leadeth me in the paths of psychoanalysis for peace of mind's sake.

Yea though I walk through the valley of the shadow of the iron curtain, I shall fear no communists, for thou art with me; thy radar screen and thy hydrogen bomb, they comfort me.

Thou preparest a banquet before me in the presence of the world's billion hungry people; thou anointest my head with home permanents; my alcoholic glass foameth over.

Surely prosperity and pleasure shall follow me all the days of my life and I shall dwell in Shangri-La forever.

—Rev. Edward K. Ziegler, The Pulpit

fessional standards. Mr. Morris received his Master of Education degree in June.

— SUPERINTENDENT'S PAGE —



DELEGATES ARRIVING AT CHURCH

"Making History"

Our 1954 Convention meeting at Lanett, Ala., was an historic event of which we all can be justly proud. 263 registered delegates from churches throughout the Convention participated in the two-day sessions which began with a keynote address by Dr. Ruth Isabel Seabury and ended with the services of dedication and installation conducted by the Chaplain, Rev. John Dollar, the retiring Moderator, Rev. Arnold Slater, our new Moderator, Rev. Lowell Smoot, and Supt. Butterfield. In between were packed hours of inspiration, good fellowship, and important business. We'll not soon forget the recorded words of greeting from Dr. Truman Douglass and Dr. Stanley North; Dr. Denison's challenging message on Stewardship; the words of counsel given in the fellowship meetings in which Dr. Seabury, Dr. Margaret Hargrove, Walter Graham and Dr. Denison were guest leaders; the meaningful moments with the Chaplain, Rev. John Dollar; the Convention sermon by Rev. Arnold Slater; nor the Convention Banquet with its genial toastmaster, Dr. A. R. Van Cleve and the featured "Reports from the Field."

Arnold Slater made an excellent presiding officer and the business sessions went most smoothly.

If one were to pick out the most outstanding features of this historic convention, choices would be most difficult. Certainly the reports from the standing committees and fellowship presidents would have to be listed for they all gave evidence of the rapid growth among our churches and the increasing vitality of our fellowship. The report by Lowell Smoot that we had gone over the top on our CBLF Campaign gave to us all a great sense of accomplishment, for we had for the first time done our fair share in a national program of advance. We could not overlook the thrilling announcement by President Flannery that Southern Union College will begin afternoon classes for Negro students this fall.

The passing of the "autonomy plan" without a dissenting vote was another high point, for it gave proof that we have grown up and are taking our rightful place within the total fellowship.

Perhaps the most holy moments were those we shared together around the Lord's table after the

service of dedication, memorial, and installation. For it was then that we realized the true significance of all that had been said and done during the two great days. We were mightily aware of our Christian responsibilities, and our fellowship in the spirit of the Living Lord. Our consecration was complete: 'Christ for the world we sing, the world to Christ we bring' no longer just a Convention hymn, becomes our divine imperative as we now face the high calling of Our Christian World Mission. May God give us power to match our purpose.

—Erston M. Butterfield

* * *

Officers Elected at Annual Meeting

As provided in our Constitution, the Moderator Elect, Rev. Lowell A. Smoot, pastor of the Phenix City United Church and Convention Chairman of the Church Building Loan Fund Campaign for the past two years, became our new Moderator. Rev. Archie Burns Bedford, pastor of the Circular Church of Charleston, S. C., was elected Moderator Elect and will take office as Moderator in 1956.

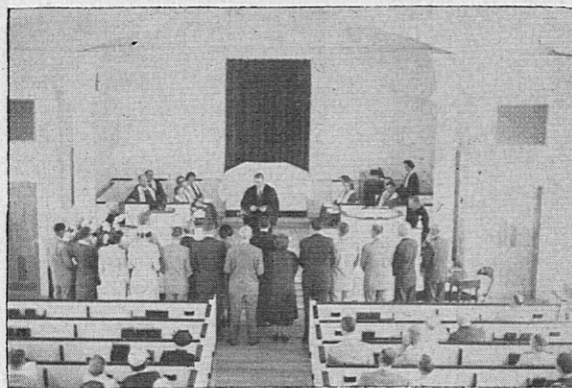
The resignation of the Convention Treasurer, Walter L. Jackson of Atlanta, having been accepted with regret and expressions of appreciation for his three years of service, John W. Stokes (also of Atlanta) was elected as the new Treasurer. Mrs. Ed. Albright was reelected as Assistant Treasurer and Registrar.

Rev. Arnold Slater, retiring Moderator, was elected as a member-at-large of the Convention Board of Directors for three years.

Chairmen of the four standing committees of the Convention are as follows: Ministry and Churches, Dr. Thomas Anderson of Central Church, Atlanta; Evangelism, Stewardship & Missionary Education, Rev. Joe A. French of Lanett; Christian Education and Youth Work, Rev. Annie R. Campbell of Garden City Church; and Survey and Church Aid, Rev. Goff Bedford of Langdale Church.

Herman D. Cook of Lanett, Ala., was reelected President of the Laymen's Fellowship; Mrs. L. A. Smoot of Phenix City was elected President of the Women's Fellowship; and Millard Fuller of Lanett was elected President of the Pilgrim Fellowship.

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SERVICE AT DEDICATION

Ministers' Convocation and School

The first Ministers' Convocation and School for the Southeast Convention was held May 3-7 on the campus of Southern Union College, Wadley, Ala. with thirty-four ministers in attendance. Classes under Professors C. S. Bennett and C. H. Landes were excellent. All those in attendance were enthusiastic about the program. An even larger attendance is anticipated at the fall session.

Dr. Fred S. Buschmeyer and Dr. Warren H. Denison, guest lecturers, did outstanding jobs and made deep impressions on the thinking the ministers. Sixteen will be continuing their study through the summer in the correspondence program.

Plans are now being made for the fall Convocation and School, and announcements will be going out in July and August.



Left to right: Dr. Buschmeyer and Rev. Earl Hand. All the ministers in training were not present for the cover picture, and Dr. Buschmeyer was away presenting a radio broadcast at Roanoke.



Ministers "burning the midnight oil" in study.



Professor Landes' Class



Discussion and fellowship among the ministers between classes.



Professor Bennett and group clearing up points by after-class discussion.

Pleasant Hill Community Center

By Paul R. Reynolds

Mr. Boyce, Farm Manager of the Pleasant Hill Community Center, has resigned to take a similar position with Dr. Evans and his brother on their big farm "Glad Acres" near Crossville.

Mr. Boyce studied agriculture at Berea College and the University of Tennessee. During his seven years at the Community Center he has sought to build up the farm and render service to the people of the region. The farm includes 1000 acres, several hundred of which is woodlands. The inventory has been raised from some \$4,000 to about \$20,000.

We now have two tractors, hay chopper, hay drier, silo filling equipment, manure loader and spreader, etc. Fully a third of the time this machinery is serving small farms in the district where the farmers cannot afford such equipment.

Veterinary service has been interested, 4-H demonstrations and judging, night meetings for farmers, cooperative buying and selling of seed, grain and stock, bulk buying of fertilizers at lower rates, taking livestock to markets, a community milk route, furnishing Grade A milk for the school hot lunch program, sale of pure bred lambs and heifers,--all these and many other services have been rendered.

Present members of the staff include N. J. Swafford, our efficient dairyman; Woodrow Brown, who handles the general farm work; Miss Margaret Campbell, who has charge of our Craft Shop; Earl Clark, our "Mr. Fixit" and who has constructed many of our buildings and much furniture; Hollis McCormick, Earl's right-hand man; Mrs. Earl Clark, manager of our Thrift Shop; and Elene Dodson, able and alert Secretary-Treasurer.

The old Pleasant Hill Academy which served the region so well and is now continued as a County School, the farm which seeks to follow the Biblical injunction to feed and serve people, the craft shop where people make useful and beautiful articles for home use or for sale, Uplands Sanatorium which is independent but church supported and founded on deep religious motivation, the Thrift Shop which certainly clothes those in need,--all these are part of the outreach of the church. They have all received the help and support of churches, individuals and various of our National Boards.

Therefore, for some time, it has been felt that the local church might well be linked more closely with these various organizations and channels of practical Christian service. Plans were therefore made to invite a family to serve as leaders in the church and coordinators of the community program.

Charlotte and Paul Reynolds were called to this joint responsibility and have come right gladly to throw in their lot with the fine and friendly people of the community and region. The Reynolds spent fourteen years in Shansi in China under the American Board, as missionaries of the Winnetka, Illinois Community Church. Their four children were born in China. For the last seventeen years the Reynolds have been working in the Division of Christian Education of our denomination, latterly

(Please turn to page 12)

Dedication of Union Hill Parsonage



THE UNION HILL PARSONAGE

Photo by John C. Corbett - Pearson, Ga.

A Service of Dedication for the new parsonage of the Union Hill Church, Pearson, Ga., was held on the afternoon of May 9 with more than 300 people in attendance.

Highlights of the program were the invocation, by the Rev. Earl Hand, the words of welcome from Yancey Sears, and the singing of the Junior Choir. Supt. Erston M. Butterfield gave the dedication message and led the act of dedication.

Open house was held for all visitors and guests by the Rev. and Mrs. Hand.



Left to right: Woodrow James, Rev. Earl Hand, Mrs. Hand, and Clyatt James, members of the Building Committee.

Photo by John C. Corbett - Pearson, Ga.

Church News

The **Rock Spring Church**, near Roanoke, Ala., held the annual Memorial Services May 9. The Rev. John D. Dollar is serving as supply pastor.

The small membership of Rock Springs Church is to be complimented and congratulated for their interest and efforts in behalf of the old church. Much has been done to preserve and improve the building and the cemetery. The members have worked hard and done a fine job.

One of the big needs at the present is more Sunday School space, so classes can meet separately and get more out of the lessons. A campaign is under way to raise funds for adding three rooms to the present building. The canvassers reported a good response, but much hard work and sacrifice on the part of the members lies ahead.

The lawn of **First Church, Andalusia**, has a new look. Azaleas and other shrubs have been set out, the trees pruned, and the new grass is really growing.

The W.M.S. is happy to announce that the last payment on the pulpit chairs was made in March. A large delegation attended the Women's Rally at Antioch Church March 20th and reported an enjoyable and informative session.

—Mrs. Lula P. Trawick, reporter

The congregation of **Thorsby Church** has completed the six-session study course, recommended and prepared by Miss Ione Catton. Miss Catton suggested this course as an interesting and profitable way of presenting the story of our present-day Christianity. Our pastor, the Rev. Carolyn Welch, led the program and presented one each week, outlining the story of our individual church membership spreading to the universal fellowship of our world missions. We see now that there is no "home" or "foreign" or "local" or "national" church, but that we are all ONE—even if we were a member of a little rural church in China or Africa, instead of in Alabama. Our pastor introduced us to the different parts of our church organizations and how they work, and gave us a sense of accomplishment with a short examination at the end of each session. We gained basic information for a wider and more intelligent understanding of Christian life. One other notable and practical test of our success in mission work is that for every dollar we send overseas, two dollars are contributed locally.

Our pastor has been reserving the evening service of the last Sunday each month for the congregation. We choose a Bible verse and make a short comment. To judge from favorable comments this is much enjoyed.

—Mrs. Emily W. Harding, reporter

April 2 was a very special day for the **Blackwood Church of Headland**. The occasion was a visit from Superintendent Butterfield. Representatives from the **Christian Hill Church** and the Rev. and Mrs. S. M. Penn were with us, too. We enjoyed the inspirational message given by Rev. Butterfield. Although it was a week night, some 75 were in attendance and everyone remained for a discussion

period with Supt. Butterfield concerning our church problems and future plans. This friendly visit and mutual concern over our problems encourages us to go forward in our church work.

Plans were made for a parish meeting of all church officers at **New Hope Church** in Clio on April 12. All three churches were well represented, and we felt it was an evening well spent.

Our Women's Fellowship has painted two rooms of the parsonage and has purchased paint for the rest of the parsonage. The women have planned to install some new kitchen equipment and have new cabinets built, with the help of the men, before painting the kitchen.

The Women's Fellowship gave a supper on April 30 to add to the Building Fund for our Christian Education Building, and realized a new profit of \$122. The committee in charge was Mrs. Mildred Johnson, Mrs. Pera Kennedy and Mrs. Teressa Chancey, and everyone cooperated in a splendid manner.

Our Building Fund Committee has been working very hard, and is near the goal of \$400 for the roof.

On May 15 Mrs. Pera Kennedy and Mrs. Mary Vee Faison supervised the young people and children in setting out grass on the church lawn.

Those attending the Young People's Conference at New Effort Church on April 24 were: Rev. S. M. Penn, Rayburn Kennedy, Lowell Kennedy, Genella Kennedy, Carolyn Hicks, and Dora Brackin.

—Dora Brackin, Reporter

The **Bethel Church** of West Point has had a succession of inspiring services during the past three months. On March 18 Ordination Services were held for our pastor, the Rev. Lynwood Hubbard, followed by a fellowship supper at the church. Easter Sunday was Homecoming Day at the church and also marked one year of services held in the new church, dedicated last year. The week following Easter we were all blessed to have revival services conducted by the Rev. Roy Chatthem of Hillside Church, LaGrange. Seven new members were received, four on profession of faith and three by letter. Baptism services were held on Mother's Day.

We are also happy to report the interest taken by the young people of the church. Regular worship services are held by them each Sunday evening before the regular 7:30 preaching service. They have inspired us all with special singing. Recently the young people finished raising funds to purchase new hymnals for the church. We are all pleased with their work.

—Mrs. C. D. Backstrom, reporter

The **Liberty Church** of East Tallassee had a wonderful Revival Service during April, and thirty-two new members were received by the Rev. N. A. Long, guest preacher and father of the regular pastor, the Rev. Herbert Long. This makes a total of forty-two new members received since the Rev. Long became pastor. The Sunday School attendance has grown to an average of 110 and church

attendance has increased to 142 with a record attendance on Easter Sunday of 203.

—Mrs. Jettie Logan

The **Good Hope Church** of Baker, Florida has been very fortunate the past two First Sundays. On March 7 we had as our guest preacher the Rev. Clarence Bennett of Southern Union College, and the college Glee Club, directed by Mrs. Bennett, gave a very enjoyable musical program. We were also happy to welcome visitors from our neighboring church, Dorcas, for this program, and to have two of our West Florida boys as members of the Glee Club.

The First Sunday in April we had as our guest the Reverend Erston M. Butterfield, Superintendent, who gave a very encouraging message at the evening service. We are indeed grateful for the opportunity of having these visitors with us, and pray that they may continue to bring hope and encouragement to the churches in this area.

The Ladies Missionary Society of **Hunt Church** had a bazaar to help finance the quota for the Church Building Fund, and it was a big success on the cakes and aprons; they made \$49.82, of which \$35 was turned over to the treasurer for the CBLF.

The "Reds" were hostesses to the "Whites" on April 3 at a picnic, held at Oak Park in Montgomery. The ladies had charge of the program Sunday night, April 4, and had as their speaker Judge Corley. It was most enjoyable.

—Mrs. James Cumbee, reporter

The Teen-age Club of the **Daisy Church** is off to a good start. Robert Freeman is the new teacher, and is extremely interested in youth work. The Club is open each Friday night with couples taking turns chaperoning and helping to direct the activities of the group.

The Ladies Guild met with Mrs. Arthur Allison in April at her new home in Hixson. During the social hour the hostess was given a surprise handkerchief shower. The Allisons occupied the Daisy parsonage until recently. The Guild voted to sponsor the Daily Vacation Bible School again this year, and the school will begin May 31 for one week. Mrs. Claude Pendergrass has been named chairman.

On May 9, Mrs. Edith Poe was honored as the oldest active mother of the church. Mrs. Poe has taught the Ladies Bible Class for thirty years. Mrs. Louise Richie was the youngest mother present, Mrs. Dorothy Ables was the mother of the most children, Mrs. Claude Pendergrass was the only mother having a perfect attendance record both for Sunday School and church for one year.

On May 16 the Pilgrim Fellowship met in the Sanctuary for a special service. The Teen-age Class gave a program in the form of a radio broadcast informing the group on what our churches are doing and where they are going in the Mission World. Mrs. Evelyn Terry was director of the program and Bill Ables was the radio announcer.

—Mrs. Claude Pendergrass, reporter

The Hammond organ purchased for the **Evarts Church** in March has proven to be a joy and inspiration to everyone.

World Day of Prayer was observed with a very spiritual program on March 5th.

The Junior Pilgrim Fellowship meets each week with an average attendance of fifteen. A religious program is planned under the leadership of Mrs. Collie Seymour, and a social is held once each month.

The Thrift Shop begun in March under the direction of Mrs. Seymour has been very successful, helping greatly during this period of unemployment in the coal fields.

The preaching mission in April with the Rev. Talmage Hartman of Nashville as guest minister was a great spiritual uplift. The Rev. Hartman made many friends in Evarts; he is spoken of often as the big little minister. There were three additions to the church in April.

It was a great experience for our minister and delegates to attend the Annual Meeting of the Southeast Convention in Lanett, Ala., and to greet old friends, make new friends, meet the dignitaries, and leaders in our fellowship. We hope to have a full representation each year, as one has to be there in person to realize the informative and spiritual value of the conference.

The hospitality shown us could not be excelled and the food served was wonderful.

—Mrs. N. B. Smith, reporter

The men of **Todd Church** of Shawmut are doing a wonderful job gathering at the church each night for three to four hours to work on the building of the auditorium. Present plans are to hold a dedication service sometime next month, when the building project is completed.

The Men's Fellowship held a Fish Fry April 3 on the church grounds, for the benefit of the building fund.

The women of the church are also making plans for a supper soon. They have recently completed a quilt to be sold, and each circle member took one square and embroidered names of friends for donations. The names brought a total of \$116.40.

The young people of Todd were well represented at the Fellowship Meeting at Southern Union April 9-11. Those attending were Perry Snider, Diane Wallace, Franchon Prather, Sherrill Fordham, Patricia Hammock and Peggy Hammock.

—Mrs. Howard Strength, reporter

The Women's Fellowship of **First Church** of Tifton, Ga., has proved a decided asset to the Church. For their first project they have undertaken the painting of the interior of the church. The Rev. Melvin Dollar has donated \$20 towards the purchase of paint for this project, for which we are most grateful.

The Women's Fellowship was organized January 29, with the following officers elected: President, Mrs. James Davis; Vice President, Mrs. J. P. Veazey; Secretary, Mrs. M. L. McGill; Treasurer, Mrs. Ralph Worley; Friendly Service Chairman, Mrs. I. P. Ward; and Reporter, Mrs. J. T. Gill. It was agreed that each member will serve on program and membership committees during the year. The packet material is being used for programs.

—Mrs. J. T. Gill, reporter

The **Circular Church** of Charleston, S. C. is beginning to make plans for their 275th Anniversary

Celebration in 1956. This is the oldest church within the Southeast Convention.

The church has recently completed the redeco-rating of the interior and it has been said that the sanctuary is the most beautiful in Charleston and certainly one of the most interesting.

The pastor, the Rev. Archie Bedford, was asked to bring the Easter message in The Citadel, where he spoke to 1500 students. He is also acting as chairman of a panel of ministers from the Charleston Ministerial Association for a radio program every Thursday morning entitled "Any Questions." Two other ministers serve with him on the panel and the public is invited to phone in their questions.

Circular Church has also organized a Boy Scout Troop recently, seeking to meet a real need in the community.

The Ladies' Aid of the **Union Hill Church** of Pearson met at the home of Mrs. H. Y. Sears on April 5 for the purpose of completing their Friendly Service Project-- a dozen work aprons fitted with scissors, pins, needles, tape measures, thread, thimbles, etc., to be sent to Bricks, N. C. It is our hope and prayer that these ladies will follow their gift with their personally devoted life, for

"The gift without the giver is bare,
But he who gives himself
With his alms feeds three,
Himself, his hungering neighbor, and Me."

—Lowell

The four churches of the North Georgia Parish, **Macedonia, Duncan's Creek, Sardis and Liberty**, held a parish meeting May 30 at the Macedonia Church. Luncheon was served after the morning services, and Thomas Henderson, Moderator, called the meeting to order at 1:30 P.M. Bernard Roebuck, of Duncan's Creek, led the Devotional; Mrs. Albert Strickland was the pianist, and Mr. Henderson led the song service.

On May 23 the Duncan's Creek Church held a special memorial service. Scott Maddox gave the memorial address and A. B. Burel, church clerk, read the roll call of the deceased. After the spreading of the flowers, Miss Julie Crane led the prayer. Luncheon was spread following the morning service, and an afternoon song service enjoyed.

South Georgia Association

Thirteen churches were represented at the meeting of the South Georgia Association May 29 and 30, held in our Ambrose Church. The Rev. Henry Abbott was host pastor and Mrs. Aubrey James was Scribe.

Among the speakers and worship leaders were Dean A. R. Van Cleave of Southern Union College. Supt. Butterfield, Mrs. W. L. Watson, Rev. Sanford Wood, Rev. Ralph Worley and Rev. Frank C. Barner. Group meetings were under the direction of Woodrow James, Mrs. D. W. Shepherd and the Rev. Earl Hand.

At the close of the session, Moderator R. J. Elberly installed the following as officers for the coming year: Moderator, Frank C. Barner, Waycross; Assistant Moderator, Sanford Wood, Colum-

Society Hill Dedication



A large crowd was on hand for the Services of Dedication at our Society Hill Church near Roberta, Ga. The old structure was torn down and the attractive chapel pictured above was built by the members under the leadership of their pastor, Woodrow Dorsey.

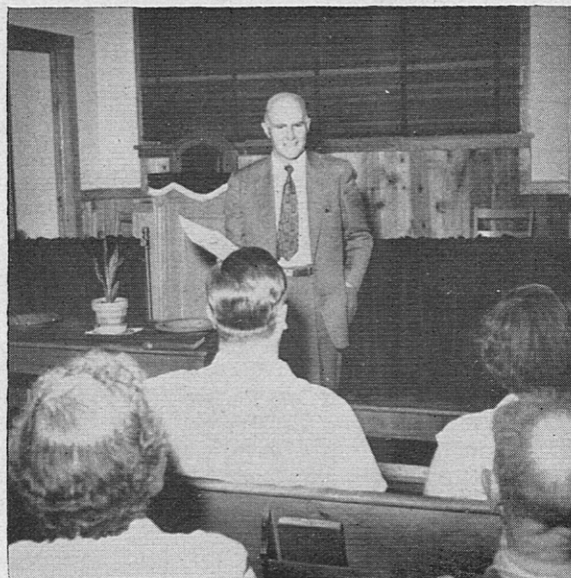
Superintendent Butterfield preached the dedication sermon.

The snapshot was taken from the old cemetery near the graves of the grandparents of General Douglas McArthur.

Stewardship Emphasis Week At Center

Center Church of Atlanta held Stewardship Emphasis Week May 23-30. The Rev. Carl Dollar and Superintendent Butterfield participated in the week's program, and Mr. Dollar conducted the training sessions for the Every Member Canvass

(Please turn to page 12)



Rev. Carl Dollar speaking at Center Church

bus; Scribe, W. C. Carpenter, Jr., Tifton; Member of the Home Missionary Committee, Lloyd Vickers of Douglas.

Alabama March Rallies

By Mary Margaret Smoot

Wasn't Spring Rally an inspiration this year? Mary Elliott's talk and beautiful illustrations on the purpose of the Women's Fellowship was a challenge to all of us. Remember the purpose: To cultivate the spirit of Christ beginning in my own life, and then extending it into the community, church, nation and around the world.

Out of seventy-one churches in Alabama-West Florida there were 22 represented at the rallies. (Wonder if we could use the "buddie" system next year and have it our responsibility to see that a church is represented which did not send delegates this year?) Of those present, 22 churches dedicated a Woman's Gift, 20 brought State Expense money, and 16 dedicated gifts of money for the Southern Union Chapel.

If your fellowship was not represented at the rally, please send your Woman's Gift, Chapel Gift, and State Expense money to Mrs. C. C. Dollar, Treasurer, Roanoke, Ala., as soon as possible.

The following officers were elected for 1955:

South Alabama-Northwest Florida Association: President, Mrs. Lula Trawick; Vice President, Mrs. Eloise Dye; Secretary, Miss Mildred Johnson; and Friendly Service Chairman, Mrs. Irene Adams.

Central Association: President, Mrs. Rascoe Maddox; Vice President, Mrs. A. B. Buce; Secretary, Mrs. Sanford Powell; and Treasurer, Mrs. Herbert Long.

North Association: President, Mrs. Ed Clark; Vice President, Mrs. Helen Clark; Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. S. A. Price.

East Association: (officers elected in September) President, Mrs. Render Fuller; Vice President, Mrs. Lala Allen; Secretary, Miss Vera Van Cleave; and Treasurer, Mrs. Mervin Harper.

For the fine spirit of cooperation, I want to say, "Thank You" to each host pastor, church, president and women's group for making YOUR Spring Rally a success!

Begin to make plans now for **July Retreat**. Information will be going out very soon. Miss Agnes Wood, missionary to Africa, will be our speaker at Retreat, July 13-14. She will also be the missionary leader for the Wadley Summer Conferences at Southern Union.

Kentucky-Tennessee Spring Rally

By Pauline Slater

Spring Rally of the Kentucky-Tennessee Women's Fellowship was held in the Pleasant Hill Community Church April 8. Dr. Paul Reynolds was guest speaker, and five churches had delegates present with six others sending in written reports.

In all the reports there was evidence that our women are taking seriously the task and challenge that is ours.

The purpose of the Church is the cultivation of the spirit of Christ in every area of human life. Church women share in the responsibility of this purpose as individual Christians, as members of the Church, and also as members of organizations within the Church. The reports show clearly that we are using these goals as guides.

The Women's Fellowship of Kentucky-Tennes-



Mrs. Smoot and Mrs. Mary Elliott, Speaker

Laymen-Ministers' Meeting

The Southeast Georgia Laymen-Ministers' Association held its regular monthly meeting at Union Hill Church of Pearson on April 12. Nine ministers and laymen were present.

The Rev. Henry Abbott reported on requirements for licentiates as set up by the Southeast Convention. This was particularly beneficial since several men in this area are seeking this recognition. The Rev. Abbott also gave a report on the Ministers' Convocation.

Mr. H. J. Varnadore of Baxley will give a brief devotional message at the next meeting. These devotional messages at each meeting are part of the plan to use the new lay preachers and consecrated laymen in an active program of our church work.

After the business meeting the men went to the home of the Rev. Earl Hand and enjoyed an hour of further fellowship and refreshments.

see is contributing toward the Church Building Loan Fund, the deficit in the Convention budget, and a scholarship for a Southern Union student.

Our dream is to develop among women a greater sense of Churchmanship, knowledge and appreciation of the church and its task - local, conference, and worldwide. Our areas of work are: 1) Evangelism and Spiritual Life, 2) Stewardship, 3) Christian Education, 4) Missionary Education, 5) Christian Social Action, and 6) Friendly Service.

"For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another." (ROMANS 12:4, 5.)

"God is our source of strength and inspiration. He in turn is dependent upon us to do His work in the world; dependent upon our human hearts and minds and hands. What a task is ours to perform! What a high service to discharge!" (From "Our Fellowship Purpose").

673 Piedmont Avenue, N. E.
Atlanta, Georgia

Summer Camps and Conferences

Programs, promotion and registration blanks have gone out to all ministers and church clerks giving the programs for the summer camps and conferences as planned earlier this spring for the Convention by the camp deans, in consultation with the Rev. John Pickens.

Ministers and clerks are urged to talk with their young people regarding the courses offered at these camps, and to encourage them to attend.

Effective church programs do not "just happen." They are the results of vital training of both ministers and lay people of the church. If our churches are to grow and become more effective convention-wide and world-wide, then we must implant in the hearts of the young people the ideals of churchmanship and Christian service. From their ranks will come the ministers, Sunday School teachers and church leaders of tomorrow.

DATES FOR SUMMER CONFERENCES

July 4-10 - Junior High Camp (age 12-15)

Southern Union College

Dean: Rev. Herbert Long

July 18-24 - Senior High Camp (Age 15 & up)

Southern Union College

Dean: Rev. Annie R. Campbell

Aug. 15-21 - Waycross Family Camp

Waycross, Ga.

Dean: Rev. Earl Hand

Send the registration blanks as directed on each blank as soon as possible.

"Habit is a cable;

We weave a thread of it every day,

And at last we cannot break it."

—Horace Mann

Available Materials

The pamphlet "The Congregational Christian Churches of the South," prepared by the Central South Conference, can be ordered through the Convention office. The cost is \$3.00 per 100.

Our new film "The Beginning," previewed at the Convention Meeting, may be reserved for Conference and Association meetings, and preference will be given to these and the summer camps. Churches may also send in requests for dates.

We have three new filmstrips: "A Country in Crisis," which is about the Philippian Islands; "We Are All One," the story of Puerto Rican immigrants, their problems and what the church is doing to help them become citizens; and "First Church Serves Its Community."

Student Summer Service

Last summer our Congregational Christian Churches sponsored 500 seminary and college students, who were interested in Christian education, in work as leaders in a variety of functions. This program is sponsored by the Town and Country Department of the Board of Home Missions and is under the direction of the superintendents of the

local conferences. Young people who are preparing for Christian vocations get a chance to try out their abilities. The experiences gained are something that can be learned in no other way. Daily Vacation Bible schools and contacts with children is a rewarding experience for the student and the church.

This summer we will have four student summer service workers serving the churches of the Convention under the direction of the Rev. Annie R. Campbell of Garden City, Ala. They are Richard Rider of Southern Union College, Miss Elfrieda Landes of Bluffton College, Ohio, Miss Marilee Jones, Missouri Valley College, Marshall, Mo., and Miss Betty Slater of Chattanooga. We are hoping in future years to have other workers from the young people of the Southeast Convention who are interested in a Christian vocation.

SUPERINTENDENT'S PAGE

(From page 5)

Chairmen of the four standing committees and presidents of the three fellowships are voting members of the Board of Directors.

The Convention also elected three members to the Board of Trustees of Southern Union College, each to serve for a four year term: Emerson P. Poste of Chattanooga, John R. Harris of Wadley, and Rev. Richard A. Wolfe of Massachusetts.

Delegates to the Convention Annual Meeting elected four members to serve on each of the standing committees as follows: Ministry and Churches --Dr. Jas. A. Fraser, Rev. Henry Abbott, Rev. Guy L. Colbert, and Dr. A. R. Van Cleave. Survey and Church Aids--Rev. W. C. Carpenter, Rev. Collie Seymour, Richard Drake and Walter Crutchfield. Evangelism, Stewardship & Missionary Education --Mrs. Emmett Bailey, Rev. Carolyn Welch, Herman Cook, and Mrs. Arnold Slater. Education and Youth Work--Rev. Herbert Long, Dr. D. W. Shepherd, Mrs. J. M. Gager, and Rev. Earl Hand. (Convention photographs by Rev. Philip Havener)

PLEASANT HILL COMMUNITY CENTER

(From page 7)

majoring in the Church-Home Family Life program.

We all wish to thank all of you who have so loyally supported the work here with your interest, your packages, your money and your prayers. We shall continue to do our best to make the Christian Gospel live among men in all the walks of life here on the Cumberland Plateau.

STEWARDSHIP EMPHASIS WEEK

(From page 10)

teams. The Canvass was conducted on May 30 and resulted in a substantial increase in pledges.

The Missionary Society has recently installed new cabinets in the church kitchen, and the Laymen's Group is painting the basement. A Pilgrim Fellowship has been organized.